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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Lortz, Victor

Examiner: Najjar, Saleh.

Serial No: 09/339,265

Art Unit: 2384

Filed: June 23, 1999

For: NETWORK-BASED DETECTION AND
DISPLAY OF PRODUCT
REPLACEMENT INFORMATION

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MAY 08 2002

Technology Center 2100

Assistant Commissioner For Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

05/01/2002 66E85561 00000104 09339265

01 FC:103
02 FC:102

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RESPONSE

Dear Sir:

This communication is responsive to the Office Action of December 21, 2001.

In the Claims

Please amend claims 1, 2, 8, 12, 13, 15, 17, 18, 20, 23. For examiner convenience, a clean set of all claims is below, and a set of all claims, as amended, is provided as appendix A.

1. (Amended) A method for determining part replacement related information by an end user, comprising:
- obtaining an associated identifier of a first part;
 - automatically coupling by a scanner interface the identifier of the first part to a network enabled browser;
 - automatically connecting by the browser over a network connection to a remote database to retrieve replacement related information for the first part which identifies replacement related information for a second part which should be replaced along with the first part, such database searchable by the associated identifier; and